

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 03233 231219Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----231220 010742 /14

O 231212Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5829

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03233

EXDIS

USBER ALSO FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR PGOV US WB UK FR UR  
SUBJECT: ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY RUDOLF HESS

REF: USBER 539

1. FRENCH EMBASSY HERE HAS SENT STRICT INSTRUCTIONS TO  
FRENCH MISSION BERLIN TO TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION TO AVOID  
A PRESS LEAK CONCERNING THE SUICIDE ATTEMPT. WE  
DOUBT, THEREFORE, THAT THE FRENCH WILL CONCUR IN  
THE PRESS GUIDANCE PROPOSED REFTEL.

2. PUBLICITY WOULD REOPEN FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION  
QUESTIONS OF PLANS FOR DISPOSITION OF HESS' REMAINS,  
AND WE SHARE FRENCH VIEW THAT THIS WOULD BE HIGHLY  
UNDESIRABLE, PARTICULARLY AT A TIME WHEN WE ARE  
ATTEMPTING TO GET SOVIET AGREEMENT TO REVISE THE 1970  
UNDERSTANDING.

3. EMBASSY VIEW IS THAT FIRST EFFORT SHOULD BE  
DEVOTED TO BLOCKING ALL POSSIBLE SOURCES OF A LEAK IN  
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BERLIN. (IN THIS CONNECTION, WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND  
REFERENCE IN REFTEL TO VISITS FROM  
CORRESPONDENTS.) WE BELIEVE, SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE  
BY THE AMBASSADOR, THAT ALLIED PRESS SPOKESMAN SHOULD  
NOT CONFIRM THE FACT OF THE SUICIDE ATTEMPT BUT SHOULD  
FOLLOW A NO COMMENT LINE UNTIL EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT  
HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONSIDER CIRCUMSTANCES AS OF TIME

A PRESS QUESTION IS POSED.  
STOESSEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL PRISONERS, INFORMATION CONTROL, NEWS LEAKS, PRISONERS WELFARE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BONN03233  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770062-0779  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BONN  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770219/aaaaaqns.tel  
**Line Count:** 64  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** c7cf60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 USBERLIN 539  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3257310  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY RUDOLF HESS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PGOV, US, WB, UK, FR, UR, (HESS, RUDOLF)  
**To:** USBERLIN  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c7cf60c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009